



Builth Rural District Council

Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1965

Officials.

Medical Officer of Health.....T.C.R. George, M.R.C.S.,
Guildhall, Brecon L.R.C.P.,
T.N. Brecon 2884 D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector J.C. Bowen, M.A.P.H.I.,
Inspector Meat and other Foods. C.R.S.I.,
M.R.I.P.H.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors...J.R.M. Walker, M.A.P.H.I.,
(For part of the year) M.R.S.H.

C.R. Morgan, M.A.P.H.I.



Builth Rural District Council

Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

1965.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the sanitary conditions and the state of the public health in the Builth Rural District during the year 1965.

In the preparation of this report I have endeavoured to deal briefly with all matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine and I have included comments on all the subjects specifically requested in Circular 1/66 (Wales) by the Welsh Board of Health.

Section 1. General and Vital Statistics.

Area.....125,944 acres.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Crude Rate per 1000 Pop.</u>
Legitimate	19.	19.	38.	
Illegitimate.	2.	1.	3.	
	21.	20.	41.	13.3.

The corrected birthrate was 15.5.

The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 18.0.

The district was therefore lower than the national average but higher than the district death rate.

Illegitimate Births. Three illegitimate births were registered during the year.

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Crude Rate per 1000 Pop.</u>
	12.	14.	26.	8.3.

The corrected death rate was 8.6.

The rate for the whole of England and Wales was 11.5. The district rate was therefore lower than the national average and also lower than the district birth rate.

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 live & still births.</u>
	1.	0.	1.	23.8.

Total still birth rate for the whole of England and Wales was 15.7.

Infantile Deaths. There were no deaths registered in children of under one year of age.

The national average rate per 1000 live births was 19.0.

Population.

Census 1931.....	4426.
Census 1951.....	3502.
Census 1961.....	3204.
Estimated Midsummer 1965.....	3130.

The Registrar General's estimated population for the last ten years.

1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.	1964.	1965.
3490.	3390.	3360.	3330.	3340.	3200.	3270.	3240.	3140.	3130.

Maternal Deaths. No deaths occurred which could be attributed to childbirth. This is a very satisfactory feature.

Maternal Mortality Rate......Nil.Deaths from special causes.

Infectious disease.....Nil.

Respiratory tuberculosis Nil.

Other tuberculosis disease.....Nil.

Cancer.....Eight.

Number of inhabited Houses. This numbers 1085 giving an average number of persons per house of 2.8.Analysis of Causes of Deaths. Males.....12. Females.....14.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Other infective and parasitic diseases.....	1.....	0.
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	1.....	2.
Malignant neoplasm, lung.....	2.....	0.
Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	0.....	1.
Other malignant neoplasms.....	1.....	1.
Vascular Lesions, nervous system.....	1.....	0.
Coronary disease.....	2.....	4.
Hypertension with heart disease.....	0.....	1.
Other heart disease.....	2.....	5.
Other diseases of respiratory system.....	1.....	0.
Hyperplasia of prostate.....	1.....	0.

Section 2. General Provisions of Health Services.

Public Health Officers. Mr. J.C.Bowen remained as your Public Health Inspector.
Mr. J.R.M.Walker as additional Public Health Inspector.
Mr. Walker left on 30.6.'65 and Mr. C.R.Morgan commenced as additional P.H.I.
on 1.9.'65.

Laboratory Facilities. During the year laboratory facilities were available at Cardiff, Newport, Carmarthen, Swansea, Aberystwyth, Brecon and Shrewsbury. All water and milk samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory for the County at Carmarthen, whilst any investigation required in the control of infectious disease was performed by the same laboratory. Owing to the discontinuance of the rail service between Builth Road and Carmarthen, samples are now taken by car.
The laboratory at Shrewsbury was also available during the year.

Nursing and other facilities. The County Council is responsible for the provision of the ambulance and home nursing services. The County also administers the maternity and child welfare clinics where treatment is available for minor ailments, dental, eye and orthopaedic defects. Immunisation against diphtheria is also carried out at these clinics.

Hospitals. The hospital needs of the residents of the district for all diseases apart from infectious disease, are provided by the Builth Hospital. The arrangement for the treatment of infectious disease remain the same as in the previous years. Merthyr Borough Council treat the patients from the district suffering from infectious disease and these are conveyed to Merthyr in ambulances maintained by Merthyr Borough Council. These arrangements are proving extremely satisfactory.

For the treatment of cases of smallpox arrangements have been made by the Welsh Board of Health for beds to be available at the Penrhys Hospital, Rhondda.

Section 3. Sanitary Circumstances.

Water Supplies. Water supplies to the district are now administered by the Builth and District Water Board.

During the year 13 properties were connected to the mains for the first time.

As suggested in Circular 1/62 (Wales) the following information is available.

(a) Public Water Supply.

Parish.	Piped into house		Piped to House Curtilage		Served by standpipes	
	No:	Persons supplied	No:	Persons supplied	No:	Persons supplied.
Alltmawr.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crickadarn.	16	48	0	0	0	0
Gwarafog.	2	6	0	0	0	0
Gwenddwr.	29	87	1	3	5	15
Llanafanfawr.	22	66	0	0	0	0
Llanafanfechan.	19	57	0	0	5	15
Llandewi's Abergwesyn.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Llandewi'r Cwm.	87	261	8	24	0	0
Llandulas.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Llanfihangel Abergwesyn.	2	6	0	0	0	0
Llanfihangel Brynpabuan.	14	39	0	0	0	0
Llanganten.	57	171	0	0	1	3
Llangynog.	2	6	0	0	0	0
Llanlleonfel.	20	56	0	0	0	0
Llanwithwl.	44	132	0	0	0	0
Llanwrtyd Without.	1	3	0	0	0	0
Llanynis.	3	8	0	0	0	0
Llys dinam.	5	15	1	3	0	0
Maesmynis.	4	12	0	0	10	30
Penbuallt.	72	216	3	9	17	51
Rhosferig.	7	21	0	0	0	0
Treflis.	54	151	4	12	2	6

b. Private Water Supply.

Parish	Piped into house		Piped to house Curtilage		Served by Standpipes	
	No:	Persons supplied	No:	Persons supplied	No:	Persons supplied
Alltmawr.	4	12	0	0	0	0
Crickadarn.	39	117	5	15	0	0
Gwarafog.	12	36	0	0	0	0
Gwenddwr.	46	138	3	9	1	3
Llanafanfawr.	37	111	5	15	0	0
Llanafanfechan.	5	15	1	3	0	0
Llandewi Abergwesyn.	5	15	0	0	0	0
Llandulas.	34	102	0	0	0	0
Llandewi'r Cwm.	16	48	0	0	0	0
Llanfihangel Abergwesyn	20	60	6	18	0	0
Llanfihangel Brynpabuan.	12	36	1	3	0	0
Llanganten.	5	15	2	6	0	0
Llangynog.	3	9	0	0	0	0
Llanlleonfel.	4	11	0	0	0	0
Llanwrthwl.	24	72	4	12	0	0
Llanwrtyd Without.	24	72	0	0	0	0
Llanynis.	18	50	1	3	0	0
Llys dinam.	22	66	3	9	0	0
Maesmynis.	13	39	1	3	0	0
Penbualt.	19	57	0	0	0	0
Rhosferig.	10	30	0	0	0	0
Treflis.	27	75	2	6	0	0

Water Samples.

Public Supplies. The number of samples from public supplies sent for bacteriological examination was 149. Of these 115 were reported as satisfactory and 34 as unsatisfactory. In addition 19 samples were taken from private sources and private proposed supplies. Six were reported as satisfactory and 13 as unsatisfactory.

There was a steady demand for the sampling of proposed farm supplies comprising improvement schemes under the Hill Farming Act, 1946, and a considerable amount of advice was given on the selection and protection of various proposed schemes.

One further sample was chemically analysed.

Number of visits to water supplies.....2.

General visits in connection with water supplies.....17.

Most of the unsatisfactory public supply samples were as a result of the filter trouble at Llanwrtyd Wells.

Drainage and Sewerage. During the year work on the Beulah and Cefngorwydd Sewerage schemes was completed. This now leaves Garth as the only village without satisfactory arrangements, and a scheme for Garth has been approved by the Minister. The tender was accepted by the Council on 31.5.'65 but work did not commence until 26.1.'66.

Water Closets.	Chemical Closets.	Pail Closets.	Privies.	Connect to					
				Council Sewers	Private Sewer	Septic Tank.			
No: Houses %	No: Houses %	No: Houses %	No: Houses %	No. Houses %	No. Houses %	No: Houses %			
481 42.2	69 6.2	334 29.3	255 22.3	208 18.2	39 3.5	230 20.1			
520 45.2	66 5.7	315 27.4	249 21.7	221 19.2	39 3.5	256 22.2			
546 47.5	61 5.3	296 23.7	247 21.5	222 19.2	39 3.5	281 24.4			
589 52.3	55 4.8	272 23.7	232 19.0	231 19.0	39 3.39	321 28.0			
647 56.9	51 4.4	230 20.2	210 18.5	245 21.5	39 3.43	345 30.3			
688 60.8	43 3.8	214 18.9	186 16.5	260 22.9	39 3.43	371 32.8			

In connection with the above figures, the first line relates to the year 1960, the second to the year 1961, the third to the year 1962, the fourth to the year 1963, the fifth to the year 1964 and the sixth to the year 1965. Twenty six septic tanks were installed during the year, and 15 properties were connected to Council sewer for first time.

Public Cleansing. A joint collection scheme, prepared by your Public Health Inspector and including the adjoining rural district of Colwyn and the Urban District of Llanwrtyd continued in operation during the year.

Number of visits made to refuse tips.....20.
Number of general visits made in connection with refuse....37.

Public Conveniences. New public conveniences were provided at Beulah and Erwood.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. The sanitary inspection of the area was undertaken by your Public Health Inspector Mr.J.C.Bowen, and the details of this report concerning visits, samples and inspections give information relating to the work of the Public Health Inspector during the year.

Nuisances.

Number of complaints received.....50.
Number of complaints investigated.....50.

Common Lodging Houses. There are no common lodging houses in the district.

Offensive Trades. There are no offensive trades in the district.

Licensed Premises.

Number of visits made by Public Health Inspector.....5.
Number of notices served (Informal).....1.

In recent years a considerable amount of work has been carried out by the Brewery Companies to the Licensed Premises in the district. Only one was not provided with a water closet. One was modernised during the year.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Number of visits.....12.
There are now three licensed sites in the district, Prince Llewelyn.....19
Aberduhornw.....3 and Cwrt Gwenddwr...1.

Shop Acts.

Number of inspections made.....3.
Number of notices served.....0.

Camping Sites. There are two recognised camping sites in the district. One at Cilmerly and one at Elan Valley. No new sites were approved during the year. Action is being taken in connection with unauthorised siting of caravans on various sites.

Eradication of Bed Bugs and Steps taken to combat infestation.

No premises were found to be infested with bed bugs during the year.

Rodent Control.

Number of premises inspected as a result of:-

- (a) Notification.....11.
- (b) Survey.....18.
- (c) Otherwise.....2.
- Total inspections carried out.....63.

Number of properties infested by:-

- (a) Rats - Major.....0 Minor.....15.
- (b) Mice - Major.....0 Minor.....14.

Number of premises treated by Local Authority.....29.

Number of "Block" control carried out.....1.

Sewer treatments were carried out. Ten per cent of manholes in each scheme were baited and there was no bait takes in any.

All dead rats and mice are buried.

Legal Proceedings. No legal action was taken by the Council during the year.

Section 4. Housing. No new Council houses were built during the year. Schemes were prepared for houses and bungalows at Garth and Llangammarch Wells.

- Number of houses built by private enterprise during the year.....5.
- Number of houses built by private enterprise since the war.....34.
- Number of Council houses built since the war 92.
- Number of private houses under construction at end of year.....5.

Improvement Grants.

Number of applications for improvement grants.

- (a) Discretionary.....8.
- (b) Standard.....16.

All these applications were approved.

The Standard Grants involved the maximum sum of £2717. 0. Od and the Discretionary Grants £1238.

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963. The necessary work on the Act commenced during the year. At the end of the year the following had been registered and inspected.

Offices.....2.

Catering Establishments.....1.

There were no exemptions granted or prosecutions during the year.

Rural Housing Survey. Extracts from this survey have been used in this report and the following summaries are also interesting. In the classification of houses the following definitions must be borne in mind.

Category 1. Satisfactory in all respects.

Category 2. With minor defects only.

Category 3. Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement and which it is considered can be carried out at a reasonable cost in relation to the value of the property.

Category 4. Appropriate for reconditioning, improvement or extension, this is generally when considerable amount of work is required but where it would be unreasonable to force owner to do the work because value of house does not warrant it.

Category 5. Unfit for human habitation and beyond repair at reasonable cost.

Builth Rural District CouncilClassification of Houses.

Cat. 1.		Cat.2		Cat.3.		Cat.4		Cat.5.	
No:	%	No:	%	No:	%	No:	%	No:	%
264	23.1	106	9.3	487	42.9	187	16.4	95	8.3
294	25.6	107	9.3	468	40.7	185	16.1	95	8.3
314	27.3	114	9.9	448	39.0	181	15.7	93	8.1
322	28.2	154	13.4	412	36.0	173	15.1	83	7.25
352	30.5	188	16.3	388	33.5	157	13.1	77	6.6
393	38.8	188	16.3	362	31.2	147	12.8	70	6.0

In connection with the above figures, the first line relates to the year 1960, the second to the year 1961, the third to the year 1962, the fourth to the year 1963, the fifth to the year 1964 and the sixth to the year 1965.

The number of grade 4 & 5 houses include 24 properties which have been closed since 1963 and 1964.

Other Amenities as shown by Rural Housing Survey.

Fixed Bath		Sink		Hot water installed		Electricity, Mains or own plant.	
No:	%	No:	%	No:	%	No:	%
407	35.7	759	66.6	448	39.3	600	52.6
445	41.7	788	74.8	485	45.4	686	64.3
471	44.2	814	71.4	511	47.9	731	63.6
518	45.2	847	74.0	553	49.9	743	64.9
576	50.0	872	75.7	611	53.0	911	79.1
617	53.1	913	78.8	652	56.2	940	81.0

In connection with the above figures, the first line relates to the year 1960, the second to the year 1961, the third to the year 1962, the fourth to the year 1963, the fifth to the year 1964 and the sixth to the year 1965.

Housing Consolidated Regulations. Seven properties were closed as a result of formal action under Housing Act, 1957

Number of Houses inspected under Building Byelaws.....94.

Number of houses made fit after formal action.....2.

Section 5. Inspection and Supervision of Foods.Milk.Record of Inspections and Milk Testing.

Number of inspections of vehicles.....6.

Number of samples taken for Methylene and

Phosphatase test.....6.

Number of samples satisfactory.....2.

A further 114 samples were taken for Brucella Abortus

Since the coming into operation of the Milk & Dairies Act, 1944, the Council is left with the registration and supervision of distributors.

During the year milk samples indicated that the herd in a farm at Llanafan was infected with Brucella Abortus. As a result the sale of this milk was stopped and an alternative supply for retail was obtained from the Creamery at Builth. This infected milk was a school supply. This supply was kept under observation and the restriction remained in force at the end of the year. The herd was sampled on five occasions.

Meat There is no slaughterhouse in the district and all meat is supplied to the district direct from the slaughterhouse in the Colwyn Rural District.

Ice Cream Premises. There are ten retailers of ice cream in the district. Also sold by mobile van.

Number of inspections.....7.

Number of notices.....0.

Number of samples.....7.

Six of these were placed in grade 1 and one in grade 11.

Food Premises. The following food premises remained in operation at the end of the year.

Grocers.....	17.	(Eight supplying ice cream)
Public Houses and Hotels.....	10.	
Dairies.....	3.	
Cafes.....	1.	
Market Halls.....	1.	

The district is also served by various mobile retailers operating from Builth Wells, Llandrindod Wells and Newbridge.

Food Preparation Rooms.

Number of visits.....	10.
Number of notices.....	3.

Educational activities. Lectures were given by Mr. Bowen and myself for Public Health Badge to Scouts.

Section 6. Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease.

The following cases of notifiable infectious disease were reported to me during the year:-

Measles.....	4 cases.
Scarlet Fever.....	1 case.

The district was therefore practically free from infectious disease. No death was caused by infectious disease.

Venereal Disease. The County Council has an agreement with the General and Eye Hospital, Swansea for the treatment of these cases. The tracing of contacts and the following up of defaulters is the responsibility of the County Council.

Tuberculosis. The following details show the position as regards tuberculosis in recent years.

Number of cases on register at commencement of year.....	9.
Number of fresh cases added during the year.....	1.
Number of deaths during the year.....	0.
Number of cases removed as recovered.....	1.
Number of cases which left district.....	0.
Number of cases left on register at end of year.....	9.

The number of notifications in recent years is shown below.

1955.	1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.	1964.	1965.
3.	4.	2.	2.	1.	0.	2.	2.	2.	0.	1.

APPENDIX

Factories Act, 1937 to 1959

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1965 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF BUILTH IN THE COUNTY OF BRECONSHIRE.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspecti- ons	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
i. Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	-	-	-	-
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	10.	10.	1.	-
iii. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding) out-workers' premises.	-	-	-	-
Total	10.	10.	1.	-

2. CASES in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more cases).

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness S.1	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1.	1.	-	-	-

No outwork was done in the district during the year.

Yours faithfully,

T.C.R. George,

Medical Officer of Health

